

Office of Attorney General Terry Goddard



STATE OF ARIZONA
DEPARTMENT OF LAW
1275 W. WASHINGTON STREET
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007-2926
WWW.AZAG.GOV

ANDREA M. ESQUER
PRESS SECRETARY
PHONE: (602) 542-8019
CELL PHONE: (602) 725-2200

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Terry Goddard Calls Warren Jeffs' Prison Sentence a Positive Step

(Phoenix, Ariz. – Nov. 20, 2007) Attorney General Terry Goddard had the following response to today's sentencing of Warren Jeffs to two consecutive prison terms of five years to life:

The sentence given to Warren Jeffs is good news for Arizona and another very positive step affirming the rule of law in the community of Colorado City. It provides vindication and a degree of closure for the courageous witnesses who testified for the prosecution against Jeffs and for other victims over the years.

Jeffs' tyrannical hold on members of the Fundamentalist Church of Latter Day Saints is history. He can no longer claim that he is above the law. He can no longer intimidate crime victims and keep them from stepping forward.

Jeffs will soon stand trial in Arizona. I spoke today with Mohave County Attorney Matt Smith to reaffirm my commitment to do whatever my Office can to assist with the prosecution of Jeffs. A judge and jury in Utah have rendered their decisions. Arizona's criminal justice system now awaits him.

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